

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 14094 300907Z

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ACTION EB-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-02 /032 W

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R 300735Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5622

UNCLAS TOKYO 14094

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, JA

SUBJECT: CIVAIR- NEW TOKYO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

REF: TOKYO 13951

1. DURING MEETING WITH JCAB OFFICIALS ON OCTOBER 25 (REFTEL)
U.S. CAB OFFICIALS ASKED ABOUT STATUS OF NEW TOKYO INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT AT NARITA. MR. GOTO (JCAS SENIOR DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL)
REPLIED THAT AIRPORT AUTHORITIES ARE STILL BESET WITH SERIOUS
PROBLEMS IN COMPLETING A FUEL SUPPLY SYSTEM. ELABORATING ON THIS
POINT, GOTO EXPLAINED THAT THREE ALTERNATIVES FOR SUPPLYING
AVIATION FUEL TO NARITA HAD BEEN CONSIDERED: (A) VIA A PERMANENT
PIPELINE FROM TOKYO BAY PORT OF CHIBA; (B) VIA RAIL TANKER FROM
CHIBA AND KASHIMA (ON PACIFIC COAST SIDE) TO TOWN OF NARITA AND BY
SHORT PIPELINE TO AIRPORT; AND (C) BY TRUCK TANKER FROM CHIBA.
GOTO SAID ALTERNATIVE (A) WAS ORIGINAL PLAN AND PERMANENT PIPELINE
IS APPROXIMATELY 70 PERCENT COMPLETED. HOWEVER, WORK HAS BEEN
SUSPENDED DUE TO OPPOSITION OF RESIDENTS ALONG PROPOSED RIGHT-OF-WAY
IN DENSELY POPULATED TOWN OF CHIBA. NO ONE KNOWS HOW LONG IT WILL
TAKE TO OVERCOME THIS OPPOSITION. ALTERNATIVE (B) WAS CONCEIVED
AS A TEMPORARY SYSTEM PENDING COMPLETION OF CHIBA PIPELINE, BUT IT
TOO IS STYMIED. ONLY ONE KILOMETER OF PIPE REMAINS TO BE LAID
BETWEEN NARITA AND AIRPORT, BUT AIRPORT OPPONENTS HAVE CAUSED WORK
TO BE SUSPENDED. THIS PIPELINE COULD BE COMPLETED AND PUT IN
OPERATION WITHIN THREE MONTHS AFTER WORK IS RESUMED, BUT IT IS
IMPOSSIBLE AT PRESENT TO PREDICT WHEN THIS WILL OCCUR. ALTERNATIVE
(C) IS NOT CONSIDERED VIABLE SINCE THERE ARE 16 HIGHWAY BRIDGES
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PAGE 02 TOKYO 14094 300907Z

BETWEEN CHIBA AND AIRPORT WHICH WOULD HAVE TO BE CONSTANTLY GUARDED

TO PREVENT DISRUPTION OF TRUCK TRAFFIC BY AIRPORT OPPONENTS.

2. IN SHORT, ACCORDING TO GOTO, IT STILL IS NOT POSSIBLE TO
PREDICT WHEN NARITA AIRPORT WILL BE OPENED.
HODGSON

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